

Pathway to Becoming a Peer Specialist Certified in Missouri

Consumer



Hired By

- Administrative Agent or Affiliate
- CPS Facility
- Consumer Operated Service Program
- Other CPS Approved Programs



Applies for and accepted to
Peer Training Program



Completes 5-Day Training



Passes Certification Examination



Receives Annual Continuing Education

For More Information, Contact:

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Missouri Peer Specialist Certification Training



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**Missouri Department of Mental Health
Division of Comprehensive
Psychiatric Services**

What is Peer Support in Missouri?

Peer Support services are face-to-face services or group services with a rehabilitation and recovery focus.

Peer Services promote skills for coping with and managing psychiatric symptoms while encouraging the use of natural resources and enhancing community living.

- Their activities assist in achieving goals and objectives set forth by the consumer in their individualized treatment plan.
- Their activities emphasize the opportunity for consumers to support each other as they move forward in their recovery.

Where Can Peer Specialists Work?

Peer Specialists work in a variety of settings, including:

- Administrative Agents
- Affiliate Agencies
- Consumer Operated Service Programs (Drop-In Centers and Warm Lines)
- DMH Inpatient Facilities
- Mental Health Courts
- Supportive Housing Programs

What does a Peer Specialist Do?

A Peer Specialist helps individuals who have psychiatric disabilities develop a network for information and support.

A Peer Specialist can train and mentors:

- Consumers on the use of Network of Care
- Individuals in the development of their personal WRAP Plan.

A Peer Specialist can serve as Community Support Assistants in Certified Community Psychiatric Rehabilitation (CPR) Programs.

A Peer Specialist can share lived experiences of recovery, share and support the use of recovery tools and model successful recovery behaviors.

A Peer Specialist can help consumers to connect with other consumers and with their community at large.

A Peer Specialist can assist individuals who have a psychiatric disability to make independent choices and to take a pro-active role in their treatment.

A Peer Specialist can assist individuals with identifying strengths and personal resources to aid in their recovery.

Who is Qualified to be a Peer Specialist in Missouri?

An individual must :

- Self identify as a present or former primary consumer of mental health services.
- Be at least 21 years of age.
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Pass background check or request an exception to the findings.
- Complete a State approved training program and pass a standardized examination.

How to Become a Missouri Certified Peer Specialist?

An individual must

- Have a job commitment from a mental health agency.
- Complete the application located on the following website: www.peerspecialist.org
- Complete a 5-Day Basic Training Program
- Following completion of the 5-Day Basic Training Program, the individual must pass a State of Missouri approved certification examination.
- Annual continuing education will be offered so that a Peer Specialist can maintain certification